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(c) whether this Government have had any correspondence on the subject of the inadequacy of accommodation and comforts in these ships with the Government of India within the last one year, and if so, with what results?

A.—(a) & (b) A statement[a] is placed on the table of the House.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (a) of question No. 156.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I find from the papers supplied in answer to this question that S.S. *Tara* carried passengers numbering 333 up to a maximum of 1,617. I want to know whether the latter number is not excessive considering the size and capacity of the vessel?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" If the hon. Member writes to me I shall be able to supply the information. I cannot answer the question off-hand."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" With reference to clause (c), have the Government received any inspection report after inspection of the vessels by the Collector of Madras within the last six months?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I am unable to say definitely."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Will he kindly place on the table the report, if any, on the matter?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I will consider the question."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" May I propose to the hon. the Home Member to be good enough to pay a visit to the ship when these coolies are embarked and examine the condition of the ship?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I will consider it."

Forests.

Permit for cattle-grazing in Melarasampattu village.

* 122 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to answer given to interpellations Nos. 127 and 425 of the meeting of the Council in February and March 1925, respectively, whether the Chief Conservator of Forests finds any difficulty in allowing cattle to graze in all the four blocks in Melarasampattu village taking out a single permit?

A.—A copy of the Chief Conservator's report with its enclosure is placed on the Council Table.[b]

Disafforestation of Kudiramoli reserve.

* 123 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether any proposal for disafforestation of a portion of Kudiramoli reserve forest in Tinnevelly district has been received by the Government?

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[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on pages 268–269 infra.
[b] Printed as Appendix IX on pages 269–270 infra.

A.—Yes ; 1,952 acres of the Kudiramoli reserve have been disforested.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR :—" May I know whether the area disafforested has been assigned to the people in different villages ? "

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" Sir, I shall call for the information."

Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR :—" Will the hon. Member be also be pleased to furnish a statement showing the assignments made to different people ? "

Action taken by Government on the resolution regarding supply of manure leaves.

* 124 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to refer to the proceedings of this Council, pages 317 to 331 of Vol. XXII, in which a resolution was carried by this House recommending to Government ' that manure leaves should be given free to the ryots from the reserves under the management of village forest panchayats and from other forests at a seigniorage of 6 annas per cart-load without prejudice to any privileges now obtaining in any part of the Presidency ' and state—

(*a*) how far this recommendation has been carried out by Government ; and

(*b*) in what parts of the Presidency any special privileges are now obtaining and to what extent ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member's attention is invited to G.O. No. 652, Development, dated 2nd May 1925, which is placed on the Editors' Table.

Conservators of Forests.

* 125 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what is the number of Conservators of Forests in actual service since April 1925 or who will be in service in the remaining period of the year ;

(*b*) what is the work they are engaged in ;

(*c*) how many of them spend their time and how much of it in the Nilgiri Hills ;

(*d*) now that a considerable portion of the reserved forests is passing under the control of the forest panchayats, what reduction will it enable Government to bring about in the conservative service of the Forest department ; and

(*e*) whether any officer of the status and standing of Conservator of Forests has been employed this year on any special duty ; and if so, which ?

A.—(*a*) Six.

(*b*) Each of the six Conservators is in charge of a circle.

(*c*) The headquarters of the VI Circle and of the Working Plans Circle are at Ootacamund. The headquarters of the Conservator, V Circle, are also temporarily at Ootacamund for want of accommodation at Coimbatore. The minimum amount of